

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please elect the invention of claims 1 to 6, cancel claims 7 to 16 without prejudice or disclaimer, withdraw claims 17 to 21 from further consideration, and add new claims 22 to 27, all in response to the requirement for an election of invention, as shown in the following claim status listing:

1. (Currently elected) A frit coating method, wherein frit supplied from a frit supplying means is coated on a predetermined portion of an object to be coated by a roller-type coating means.

2. (Currently elected) A frit coating method, wherein frit supplied from a frit supplying means is coated on a predetermined portion of an object to be coated by a roller-type coating means having a concave and convex surface.

3. (Currently elected) A frit coating method according to claim 1, wherein frit of a predetermined amount is supplied to said roller-type coating means under control.

4. (Currently elected) A frit coating method according to claim 2, wherein frit of a predetermined amount is supplied to said roller-type coating means under control.

5. (Currently elected) A frit coating method according to claim 1, wherein said object to be coated is a funnel, a front panel or a screen panel of a flat-type cathode-ray tube.

6. (Currently elected) A frit coating method according to claim 2, wherein said object to be coated is a funnel, a front panel or a screen panel of a flat-type cathode-ray tube.

7. (Currently cancelled)

8. (Currently cancelled)

9. (Currently cancelled)

10. (Currently cancelled)

11. (Currently cancelled)

12. (Currently cancelled)

13. (Currently cancelled)

14. (Currently cancelled)

15. (Currently cancelled)

16. (Currently cancelled)

17. (Currently withdrawn) A sealing apparatus for a flat-type cathode-ray tube comprising: a frame for properly positioning a combined assembly in which joint surfaces of a front panel, a screen panel and a funnel are butted with each other by frits, and a sealing jig which is comprised of a holding means for holding a front panel and a screen panel such that joint surfaces of said front panel and said screen panel are butted with each other by frits, said holding means being provided with a first resilient member which is urged against the outer surface of said front panel and a second resilient member which is urged against the outer surface of said screen panel, a portion in which said first resilient member comes in contact with said front panel being formed of a member whose hardness is selected to be less than that of panel glass.

18. (Currently withdrawn) A sealing apparatus for a flat-type cathode-ray tube comprising: a frame for properly positioning a combined assembly in which joint surfaces of a front panel, a screen panel and a funnel are butted with each other by frits; and a sealing jig which is comprised of a holding means for holding a front panel and a screen panel such that joint surfaces of said front panel and said screen panel are butted with each other by frits, said holding means being comprised of an annular holding member and being provided with a first resilient member which is urged against the outer surface of said

front panel and a second resilient member which is urged against the outer surface of said screen panel, a portion in which said first resilient member comes in contact with said front panel being formed of a member whose hardness is selected to be less than that of panel glass.

19. (Currently withdrawn) A sealing apparatus for a flat-type cathode-ray tube according to claim 17, wherein said holding means is provided with a load providing means.

20. (Currently withdrawn) A sealing apparatus for a flat-type cathode-ray tube according to claim 18, wherein said holding means is provided with a load providing means.

21. (Currently withdrawn) A sealing method for a flat-type cathode-ray tube comprising the steps of, butting joint surfaces of a front panel, a screen panel and a funnel, and holding and sealing said front panel, said screen panel and said funnel under the condition that an angle between a plane of said front panel and a horizontal plane becomes an acute angle.

22. (newly-added) A method of frit coating at least a portion of an object, comprising the steps of:

providing an object have a portion to be coated;

supplying frit from a frit supplying means for coating said object;

and

coating at least said portion of said object by a roller-type coating means for coating said object.

23. (newly-added) The method as set forth in claim 22, wherein the step of coating is further characterized in that said roller-type coating means includes a frit supply surface formed as a concave and convex surface.

24. (newly-added) The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of supplying frit is further characterized by the step of supplying frit to said concave and convex surface.

25. (newly-added) The method as set forth in claim 24, wherein said object is a front panel of a flat-type glass tube-assembly having a joint end face of a skirt portion of said front panel, and further includes a step of providing a second object that is a screen panel having a joint end face, wherein the step of coating said frit includes a step of applying said frit to an end surface of at least one of said front panel and said screen panel, and further including a step of butting said end faces of said front panel with said frit on its end face and said screen panel.

26. (newly-added) The method as set forth in claim 25, further including a step of providing a funnel having a joint end face, coating said joint end face of said funnel with frit; and sealing said funnel with said front panel and said screen panel.

27. (newly-added) The method as set forth in any one of claims 21 to 26, further including a step of controlling an amount of frit supplied to the concave and convex surface of the coating means with a supply-amount control means so that frits of a predetermined amount may be uniformly be coated on said object.